

Appl. No. 10/667,689
Election dated June 20, 2005
Reply to Restriction of May 19, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-42 (Canceled)

Claim 43 (Original): A method of assembling a segmented contactor, comprising:
 providing an assembly fixture including a plate defining a holding space;
 placing a contactor unit having a first side and a second side into said holding space with said first side facing said plate; and
 pressing a backing substrate onto said contactor unit to mount said contactor unit to said backing substrate.

Claim 44 (Original): The method of claim 43 further comprising forming grooves in said plate, and inserting guide blocks into said grooves to define said holding space between said guide blocks.

Claim 45 (Original): The method of claim 43 further comprising providing an adhesive on said second side of said contactor unit, wherein said backing substrate is pressed onto said adhesive.

Claim 46 (Original): The method of claim 43 further comprising testing said contactor unit before placing said contactor unit into said holding space.

Claim 47 (Original): The method of claim 46 further comprising retesting said contactor unit after said placing said backing substrate onto said contactor unit.

Claim 48 (Original): The method of claim 43 further comprising attaching a plurality of resilient contact elements to said first side of said contactor unit.

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Claim 49 (Original): The method of claim 43 wherein said plate defines a plurality of holding spaces, and further comprising placing a plurality of contactor units into said plurality of holding spaces.

Claim 50 (Original): The method of claim 49 wherein at least two of said plurality of contactor units are electrically connected to each other.

Claim 51 (Original): The method of claim 43 further comprising testing a plurality of devices on a wafer with said segmented contactor.

Claim 52 (Original): The method of claim 51 wherein said devices are integrated circuits.

Claim 53 (Original): The method of claim 43 further comprising attaching a plurality of electrically conductive leads to said contactor unit, said leads extending horizontally beyond an edge of said contactor unit.

Claim 54 (Currently amended): ~~A method of fabricating a contactor unit for use in a testing assembly, said method comprising:~~ The method of claim 43 further comprising:

forming at least one tile on a single contactor substrate;

separating said at least one tile from said substrate, wherein said tile has a first side and a second side and a plurality of conductive areas on said first side; and

testing electrically said at least one tile,

wherein said contactor unit comprises said tile.

Claim 55 (Currently amended): The method of claim 54 wherein said testing is performed prior to ~~use of said at least one tile in said testing assembly~~ said placing step.

Claim 56 (Currently amended): The method of claim 54 wherein said testing is performed before ~~said at least one tile is assembled in said testing assembly~~ after said placing step.

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Claim 57 (Currently amended): The method of claim 54 wherein said ~~contactor unit is configured for assembly with another contactor unit for use in a segmented contactor plate~~ comprises a plurality of holding spaces each configured to hold a contactor unit.

Claim 58 (Currently amended): ~~A method of repairing a segmented contactor assembly comprising:~~ The method of claim 43, wherein:

said plate comprises a plurality of holding spaces,

said placing step is repeated a plurality of times such that a plurality of contactor units are placed into said holding spaces of said plate,

said pressing step comprises pressing said backing substrate onto said plurality of contactor units to mount said contactor units to said backing substrate, and

said method further comprises:

removing a selected mounted contactor unit from a backing substrate of said segmented contactor assembly one of said contactor units from said backing substrate;

testing electrically a replacement contactor unit; and

mounting said replacement contactor unit on said backing substrate.

Claims 59-86 (Canceled)